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Constitutional Rights of the Accused: Pretrial Rights by Joseph G. Cook

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CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF THE ACCUSED: PRETRIAL RIGHTS. By Joseph G. Cook. New York: The Lawyers Co-Operative Publishing Co., 1973.

In recent years, due largely to the brilliant work of the "Warren Court," the Constitution has re-emerged as a vital document—a valuable weapon in the protection of those accused of crimes. No attorney can effectively serve his client's interest without a working knowledge of all of the recent interpretations of the Constitution, and Professor Joseph Cook's *Constitutional Rights of the Accused: Pretrial Rights* aids the attorney immeasurably in developing this knowledge.

This book is an extensively annotated one-volume analysis of the Constitutional rights of persons accused of crimes as those rights evolve prior to trial. It is extremely well written and is a welcome addition to the library of the criminal attorney or scholar. In particular, the extraordinarily thorough annotations provide the practitioner with cases from virtually every jurisdiction dealing with the various issues with which he is likely to be confronted.

An important characteristic of a good reference work is the usability of its index. *Pretrial Rights* has an excellent index which will enable the practitioner to quickly pinpoint his particular problem. Used together, the index and the annotations, along with the lucid text, make this book an outstanding, usable research tool.

The text itself is highly readable and is marked by precision and clarity. The content raises those problems and issues generally met by the criminal lawyer in his practice. Having found an analogous fact situation, the reader can digest Professor Cook's summary of the state of the law and then proceed directly, and easily, to thorough research of the cases. Further, the text labors to point out those areas in which there is general authority as well as those in which opinion is divided or diverse.

Another strong point of *Constitutional Rights of the Accused: Pretrial Rights* is its extensive section on "search and seizure". The text of this section runs nearly 300 pages with literally thousands of annotations. The particular issues analyzed range from "search warrant" and "probable cause" to "administrative searches" and "standing to object".

The subject of defendant's rights has undergone enormous changes and expansion in recent years. Here is a one-volume reference work which will bring the reader up-to-date in this field. I am thankful for it and look forward anxiously to the publication of the subsequent volumes dealing with trial and post-trial rights.

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